

CLAIMS

1. A therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent for a disease requiring regulation of cytokine production, a disease requiring nitrogen monoxide production, or an allergic disease, characterized in that the therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent comprises as an effective ingredient a fucoidan and/or a degradation product thereof.
2. The therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent according to claim 1, wherein the fucoidan is derived from an algae or Echinodermata.
3. The therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the cytokine is an interleukin or an interferon.
4. The therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent according to claim 3, wherein the interferon is interferon- γ .
5. The therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent according to claim 3, wherein the interleukin is interleukin-12.
6. The therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the allergic disease is a disease requiring suppression of IgE production.
7. The therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent is for oral

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administration.

8. A food, beverage or feed for regulation of cytokine production, induction of nitrogen monoxide production, or anti-allergy, wherein the food, beverage or feed comprises a fucoidan and/or a degradation product thereof.

9. The food, beverage or feed according to claim 8, wherein the fucoidan is derived from an algae or Echinodermata.

10. The food, beverage or feed according to claim 8 or 9, wherein the cytokine is an interleukin or an interferon.

11. The food, beverage or feed according to claim 10, wherein the interferon is interferon- γ .

12. The food, beverage or feed according to claim 10, wherein the interleukin is interleukin-12.

13. The food, beverage or feed according to claim 8 or 9, wherein the food, beverage or feed for anti-allergy is a food, beverage or feed for suppression of IgE production.

14. Use of a fucoidan and/or a degradation product thereof for treating or preventing a disease requiring regulation of cytokine production, a disease requiring nitrogen monoxide production, or an allergic disease.

15. Use of a fucoidan and/or a degradation product thereof in the manufacture of a therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent for a disease requiring regulation of cytokine production, a disease requiring nitrogen monoxide production, or an allergic disease.

16. A method of treating or preventing a disease requiring regulation of cytokine production, a disease requiring nitrogen monoxide production, or an allergic disease, wherein a fucoidan and/or a degradation product thereof is used.

17. An agent for regulation of cytokine production, induction of nitrogen monoxide production, anti-allergy, or suppression of IgE production, comprising as an effective ingredient a fucoidan and/or a degradation product thereof.

18. Use of a fucoidan and/or a degradation product thereof in the manufacture of an agent for regulation of cytokine production, induction of nitrogen monoxide, anti-allergy, or suppression of IgE production.

19. Use of a fucoidan and/or a degradation product thereof in the manufacture of a food, beverage or feed for regulation of cytokine production, induction of nitrogen monoxide production, or anti-allergy.

20. A method for regulating cytokine production, inducing nitrogen monoxide production, suppressing allergy, or suppressing IgE production, wherein a fucoidan and/or a degradation thereof is used as an effective ingredient.

21. Use of a fucoidan and/or a degradation product thereof for regulating cytokine production, inducing nitrogen monoxide production, suppressing allergy or suppressing IgE production.

Claim Amendments under PCT Article 34

22. (Added) A cosmetic for regulation of cytokine production, induction of nitrogen monoxide production, or anti-allergy, characterized in that the cosmetic comprises as an effective ingredient a fucoidan and/or a degradation product thereof.

23. (Added) The cosmetic according to claim 22, wherein the fucoidan is derived from an algae or Echinodermata.

24. (Added) The cosmetic according to claim 22 or 23, wherein the cytokine is an interleukin or an interferon.

25. (Added) The cosmetic according to claim 24, wherein the interferon is interferon- γ .

26. (Added) The cosmetic according to claim 24, wherein the interleukin is interleukin-12.

27. (Added) The cosmetic according to claim 22 or 23, wherein the cosmetic for anti-allergy is a cosmetic for suppression of IgE production.